

most convincing little document on baptism that we are publishing.

Bro. and sister W. C. Perry have returned from the Miami Valley and yesterday they moved. They are at work in earnest preparing for the school work of the year. They enjoyed their visit in the Valley greatly, and have "lots of hopes" for the future of Ashland College.

Bro. Christian Hess, who resides near this place, made us all glad the first of this week by, handing the Auditor of the College, \$50.00, as a donation. He did this without solicitation, saying he was going to give while he had money, and without being "canvassed." We thank brother Hess, and wait for others to follow this good example of expressing sympathy for the Institution.

Our patrons who have not yet paid their subscription for this year will please remember that we are in need of the money. If you have subscribed through an agent and have not paid him, please do so at once, so that he can pay us. We can not ask agents to advance money to pay us, yet we need what is due us. Please remember this brethren, and do us this favor as soon as you can.

Bro. Bauman must now have strengthened confidence in the Kansas brethren as mission workers. He now has a surplus in his hands. We want to all be patient and work steadily on. We must all be educated or naturally organized to give. If the disposition is to be acquired by education, it is a slow process and requires time. We are making advancement, and time will bring us to the desired standing in this respect.

Bro. Copp is not decided whether the money that might be spent for a convention could be secured for the College and church work. If it could be, then it would be advisable to defer the convention; but we feel sure that very little of it could be. There is abundance of money in the Brotherhood, but those who have it understand how to use it as they please. If they please to come to a convention, they will come, and we venture that some of those brethren, when they see the College, will please to encourage it, and they can easily do it. It is not a matter of ability with many, but of willingness. They have toiled and saved to gather what they have, and they can do with it what they please. So brother Copp, it is a matter of "please to" in regard to coming to a convention and contributing to the aid of good church works.

Morrill, Kans., August 9th.—Received from B. N. Graybill \$2.00 to apply on Kansas Mission Fund. Surplus in my hands up to date, \$3.70.

W. J. H. BAUMAN.

Jesus at Glenford, Ohio.

DEAR EVANGELIST:—While the elements were at war in different parts of the State and in other States, causing destruction of property and life, we had a gentle breeze sweeping from the plains of heaven, touching the Bethel church. Those are refreshing breezes.

Two more were added to the church. One, an aged man, the

other an excellent young man. God is still remembering and blessing us. His eye is over us and His hand is among us.

When I came here a year and two months ago the church numbered between fifty and sixty members. Now between seventy and eighty. We still continue to work and pray.

Sabbath school is booming under sister Mary Deffenbaugh. She knows how to make it go. We are happy. Come and see us. Fraternally,

A. A. COBER.

Miami Valley Items.

Brother and Sister Perry are gone, and now we are again left to resume our routine of duties. Their visit here did us all good. Such visits made annually cannot help but enhance the welfare of the college.

Bro. W. W. Summers of Indiana happening to stay down here on an excursion to the Soldier's Home, the brethren at Dayton and Bear Creek made appointments for him. On Tuesday Bro. Perry and myself drove down to Bear Creek to hear our brother and get acquainted with all those who may have accompanied him. Although we did not get back home until midnight, we were more than glad we went. We found brother Summers, a whole-souled, zealous, social Christian, full of the desire to do good and save souls. We were very sorry that circumstance prevented us getting better acquainted.

During a harvest and council meeting of the Bear Creek congregation, Sister Carrie Jackson, one of our applicants here, who happened to be visiting in that neighborhood was baptized. Thank you, brethren, we shall return the favor at the earliest opportunity.

On Thursday and Friday evenings August 26 and 27, we expect to hold meetings east of Miamisburg. Sometime last year, we held meetings somewhere in this locality, and this may turn out to be a permanent appointment. If it does, it will be the ninth place where we hold regular meetings, some of them monthly, others fortnightly, and one three times a month. If we keep on we will get our calendar full after awhile. But what matters it so that God is glorified and the cause prospers.

I suppose every member of our brotherhood said, "Amen" to our editor's remarks on "Convention" last week. That is just about how we all felt at the Dayton Convention. In the "summary of principles" I notice the "footwashing of saints." Now, brother editor, you will gratify a good deal of curiosity on my part, if you will tell us why you say "footwashing" instead of "feet-washing." I have been asked why you did this more than once, but I have been unable to answer. I request this thus publicly because, judging others by myself, I have no doubt many would like to know. Thank you, brother editor, for your kindly and honest criticism on my views concerning the long disputed question, whether Jesus ate the Passover on the night of his betrayal. Surely, nothing could be said more to the point and in a more Christian spirit than was said by yourself, and remembering that we differ so radically. However in the near future I expect to give the subject, a thor-

ough investigation, and I trust the Lord will guide us that truth will be vindicated.

IN MEMORIAM.

Yes, our dear sister Yoder has passed away. It takes but a few words to tell the story, but life is not long enough to tell of the aching void her absence has left in the hearts of the loved ones who laid her tenderly to rest. The lips that whispered to those around her on the verge of the dark river, "Meet me in heaven" are silent and cold, but the finger of hope still points upward. Our acquaintance was brief and limited, but long enough to see in her a humble follower of the Lord Jesus. I will leave to others, who knew her better to write of her virtues, zeal and works of love, but while we pluck from the past, the deeds and the kindness of that pure life, and weave them into a garland to her memory, let me bring my little tribute of a few straggling reminiscences of kind deeds, encouraging words, and sisterly love, that have grown in the memory and will never be forgotten.

Were we to ask those who lived nearest to her, and who knew her best, to write her epitaph, they would inscribe, "She did what she could." And when the recording angel will read that epitaph we can anticipate the approbation of the Father, "Well done good and faithful servant!" May we all live so that we may meet above.

EDWARD MASON.

The Brethren Convention.

Since the feeling is general to hold a convention this fall, would it not be a wise thing to announce the program at an early day? What shall be its character and the scope of its deliberations? Shall it dispose of queries and institute discipline when the former are asked and where the latter is needed? What shall constitute a delegate's credentials and what of his relations to his constituency as to his obligations of trust, and of the binding character of the conventions work upon the church.

Questions of this character address themselves to the average mind. Our relations to a self-constituted body, that made laws without constitutional authority, that held conventions composed of delegates with a constituency, is of such recent date that many wonder what the Brethren model will be.

In the German Baptist church the scepter of authority is wielded it is true, but where in her past history did the church thought any popular voice ever confer such power upon any one. The "leading brethren" simply assumed it, and the masses yielded to it without knowing how to legalize it if they wished to or crush it as usurpation. If they did know how to do either they carefully concealed it from the public.

How will the Brethren do? Will some brother proclaim his displeasure at the polity of a minister or organization and demand satisfaction accompanied with a threat of withdrawal from the body if his demands are not acceded to, and then to palliate, and retain the offended brother's cooperation will the convention make "the rule" that shall be binding upon all the members?

In other words shall it be moral or legal suasion?

Shall argument, judgment, reason constitute sufficient leverage to lift all obstacles from the path of progress or shall the strong arm of law be invoked?

By all means let us have a program at an early date and let the brethren have an opportunity to think matters over.

If any one has any special matter to bring up, all interested should have time and opportunity to investigate it.

Under our system as it is generally understood there can be no motive for strategy and no sympathy for strategists.

Neither can bigotry, ambition to control, or self-aggrandizement have countenance or encouragement, peaceably, sensibly, scripturally let all matters be adjusted. Let us have the program.

J. H. WORST.

Elkhart, Ind.

August 5th.—What has become of the Michigan and Ind. Mission. We hear nothing from that source. It is time to wake up and go to work, as some of our evangelists intend going into the field early, and the treasury empty, and but very little effort made to fill it.

I will make a proposal: I will be one of twenty-five to give five dollars for the work. Come, brethren, we have found this work to do, so let us do it with all our might. It is a glorious work, and the reward—oh think when we knock at the Golden Gates of Heaven for admittance it will open for us, and we will be ushered in and receive that bright and glittering crown, and hear the joyful sentence, enter in faithful servant. May we work harder for the Master than we ever have done before. With this I pray that the Father will open the hearts of every brother and sister who loves the cause, to throw in their mites so that there will be one thousand dollars in the treasury by the first of October. Come Brethren, let us overflow the treasury. If you cannot give much, give what you can, remember the widow's mite. You can all give some, if every member included in the mission would give one dollar, or even less, it would soon make a large sum, and what a vast amount of good it would do in enlarging Christ's kingdom. Come Brethren open your purse strings and give according as the Lord has prospered you. Come sister, let us do our part in this noble work. We can all do something. Save our pennies from week to week and it will soon make a dollar and send it to the mission. It will be reported through the EVANGELIST what each one gives.

If the pioneer, Bro. Mason, goes out on another tour, we would be glad to have him extend his visits to Northern, Ind. and we cordially invite him to visit Middleport. We will make your visits pleasant. For the benefit of those that do not know the address of the Treasurer, I will give it so all may know where to send and by his request how to send the money.

Send by P. O. Order or registered letter to David R. Stutzman, Elkhart, Elkhart Co., Ind. SUSIE STUTSMAN.

That Convention.

Having watched the progress of events in regard to holding a convention this coming fall, with no little amount of interest, and least, my silence should be construed into indiffer-

ence, I will try and give publicity to my views in reference to the matter.

1. I favor a convention provided the committee that was appointed for that purpose is allowed to decide as to the necessity of it, believing that they will try to arrive at a proper conclusion based upon the general feeling of the Brotherhood and the general interest of the cause; and when they issue a call for a convention I believe we all should use our best efforts to make it a success. We know that our people are very sensitive on anything looking toward getting into the old system of centralization, or mandatory legislation and unless we can have clear and unmistakable assurance, that nothing of the kind will be attempted, we shall not be able to master a Corporal's guard. If a call is issued, I think the editorial in No. 32 of the EVANGELIST is good enough, and upon the principles set forth in that, I believe the committee will issue the call and I think they should.

There are a number of subjects it would be good to talk over, give a friendly interchange of views, and try to get into an approximate union of practice. I have always been of the opinion that we do not understand each other quite as well as we should. There are too many who still look to some imaginary central-power for advice or even authority instead of realizing our true principles of congregational liberty; on the other hand they may be, and no doubt are, some who look upon congregationalism as individualism or that it is such a latitudinarianism as to allow each member of the church full liberty to do as they please. This feature may not exist to any alarming extent.

But another question, and one of vital importance is, how far a church may depart from the general practices of the Brotherhood, and still be held as a branch in the general body; this is really the important question that demands attention, but to forecast what must be done, in such, and such a case I regard as very injudicious, and if persisted in, then, 2nd, I am not in favor of a convention feeling satisfied it must end in a failure as this beloved Brotherhood of ours is free; don't belong to any man, or set of men. We are all "Brethren," and if we can meet in convention as such and depart again as such the convention will be a blessing to all concerned. If any of us have some of the weaknesses enumerated in the closing remarks of the editorial alluded to, especially No. 4, "Ambition to pamper," let us hide ourselves till the convention is past, and then come forth and work in the ranks of God's army against the common enemy, where we can do good.

Viewing all sides, if the principles laid down in the editorial in No. 32, Vol. 8, BRETHREN EVANGELIST, are strictly adhered to, we say, Brethren of the Ex. Committee give us a convention at Ashland, Ohio, in November, 1886.

P. J. BROWN.

Congress, O., August 13th.

Sisters' Band to Raise \$1,000 for Ashland College.

NEW ENTERPRISE, PA., AUG. 12, 1886.

THE BRETHREN PUB. HOUSE.—Dear Brethren:—Enclosed find check for seven dollars; toward Sisters' Band to raise \$1000 for Ashland College, subscribed by the following persons:

Sister Elizabeth Furry \$1.00

" Amanda Over 1.00

" Amanda Snoberger 1.00

" Malissa Brumbaugh 1.00

" Lizzie Replogle 1.00

" Hannah Holsinger 1.00

" Lottie F. Buck 1.00

\$7.00

This amount was procured by a slight effort on the part of the writer and it suggests the idea that if one or two sisters in each community would take it upon themselves to go and see the sisters and friends in their respective communities that the \$1000 could soon be secured. Fraternally

Lottie F. Buck.

Catharine Findlay, \$1.00

Total \$184.00

Died.

At the residence of her son, Bro. David L. Myers, in the Berlin Congregation, Somerset Co., Penna., July 12, 1886, Sister Magdalena Myers, wife of Bro. Samuel Myers, died, aged 79 years, 4 months and 27 days. Sister Myers was well and favorably known as a kind, generous Christian lady. We laid her to rest in the family burying ground in the presence of a large gathering of relatives and friends. Funeral services conducted by the undersigned assisted by Eld. Wm. G. Schrock of the G. B. church.

JOHN H. KNEPPER.

At Beaver City Neb., August 3rd, 1886, William Albert, infant son of B. F. and Elora Maple, aged six weeks. Funeral services by Eld. Corban, of the Christian church.

C. FORNEY.

The men most willing to take risks are those who have nothing to lose.